

Preserve Beach Access Newsletter



Our Mission

to Keep America's Beaches
Open and Accessible to All

December 20, 2009

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by Frank Folb

This is the time of year when many look back in review. In this newsletter edition you will have an opportunity to examine 2009 and look ahead to events coming in 2010.

This is also a time when people express gratitude. In that spirit, we all need to say thanks to key people in Washington, D.C. who have helped us during 2009.

Among those deserving our thanks is Congressman Walter Jones and Senator Richard Burr. They introduced vital legislation in Congress during 2009 that was co-sponsored by Senator Kay Hagan and others. Thanks also to NC Senator Marc Basnight for his letter of support.

Please take a moment and send an e-mail thank you to these elected officials for their stand in support of beach access. This newsletter has links for writing or phoning Congress.

Enjoy the Holidays and get plenty of rest. Soon we will all be very busy mobilizing public comments, from throughout the United States, in support of open and accessible beaches in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

2009 in Review

2009 was a pivotal year for the grassroots campaign to preserve beach access in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area.

In retrospect, some positive things happened in 2009. Early in the year legislation was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives (H.R. 718) to set aside the consent decree. During the spring and summer, Commissioners Warren Judge and Allen Burrus along with County Manager Bobby Outten and others continued to plead for help from our elected officials in Washington. In August bipartisan legislation was introduced in the U.S. Senate by Senator Richard Burr (S. 1557) and co-sponsored by Senator Kay Hagan.

Unfortunately, during 2009 the consent decree brought a new level of unprecedented beach closures. This hurt people and businesses in many ways. After completing its first full year, the consent decree has scored a failing grade. It has not produced the desired results and has cost the American taxpayers a fortune.

Here is a summary of events making news for beach access during 2009. Visit the newsroom of www.PreserveBeachAccess.org for more information.

- Jan Congressman Walter Jones reintroduces legislation
- Feb Dare County launches beach access website and campaign
- Feb Reg/Neg ends without reaching consensus
- Mar Dare County objects to expansion of closures for vandalism
- Jun Local residents voice concerns at Board of Commissioners meeting
- Jul Unprecedented beach closures continue under the consent decree
- Aug Consent decree scores a failing grade
- Aug Senator Richard Burr reintroduces legislation
- Aug Senator Kay Hagan cosponsors in bipartisan support
- Sep "Stand in the Sand II" beach access event successful in Buxton
- Dec Waiting for the release of the DEIS by the Park Service

What's next for 2010?

When the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) is released it will trigger a sequence of events that are outlined in the following newsletter article. Learn how you can help get ready for this important milestone coming in 2010.

DEIS Expected Soon

The National Park Service is expected to soon release the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), a long-awaited document which will affect the future of beach access in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area.

In a recent interview, Superintendent Mike Murray said he expects it to be released, "**Late December or early January.**" After the DEIS is released, a sequence of events will begin including a relatively short 60-day period for public comments.



After the DEIS is released, Dare County and others will immediately study it and make recommendations based upon which alternative best utilizes science to manage wildlife resources and provide reasonable access.

When the time comes for public comments, it is important that voices from people from across the entire United States be heard in support of beach access. Here are ways you can help get ready for the release of the DEIS -

- Send an e-mail to everyone in your address book asking them to visit www.PreserveBeachAccess.org and sign-up at "[Act Now.](#)"

This will make sure they automatically receive an e-mail notification when the DEIS is released along with helpful information about how to make public comments.

- Also, encourage groups and associations, of which you are a member,

to support our cause.

Remember -

- We will need people from throughout the nation to make their voices heard in favor of open and accessible beaches.
- Regardless of where your friends and family live, encourage them to join in this effort.
- The Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area is federal property that rightfully belongs to all Americans.

Together we can make a difference.



Preserve Beach Access is now on Twitter



You can now receive Twitter messages from the Dare County campaign to Preserve Beach Access.

Twitter is a unique social networking site that features short, 140-character messages, known as "tweets". In order to receive information, you must become a "follower" of the group with whom you would like to stay in contact, or follow on Twitter.

On Twitter, the Dare County campaign is identified as "**PreserveAccess**." Twitter and Facebook will both be used to share news updates and special reports.

[Follow this direct link to "PreserveAccess" on Twitter](#)

New Website Feature Starts Today

A new series, "***This Week's Video Commentary***" begins today on the beach access website featuring voices from the grassroots campaign. In the coming weeks, new videos will be added every Monday.

The new series debuts with its first video by Frank Folb, known to many for his work at Frank & Fran's in Buxton, North Carolina. He has an interesting perspective you won't want to miss. Check back each week to see a variety of people speaking from the heart about the importance of preserving beach access.

You can view the first video at this link to **[This Week's Video Commentary](#)**

The Facebook logo, consisting of the word "facebook" in white, lowercase, sans-serif font, centered within a dark blue rectangular box.

If you're on Facebook, join the Group "**Preserve Beach Access**" and share it with all your Facebook Friends

[Click Here](#)

You Can Help

The residents and visitors of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area need your support. Here's how you can help -

Forward this newsletter

Click "Forward email" at bottom of this newsletter

Send an E-Card to your friends & family [Click Here](#)

Write Congress

Ask your elected officials to support S.1557 and H.R. 718. [Sample Letter](#)

Add a link on your website for instructions [Click Here](#)



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